

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 OSLO 01514 010734Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
ACDA-12 DLOS-09 /093 W
-----073248 011234Z /14
R 311340Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5541

UNCLAS OSLO 1514

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PBOR, PEPR, NO
SUBJ: GREY ZONE--RECENT COMMENTS

1. REIULF STEEN, IN A LETTER TO THE EDITOR (AFTENPOSTEN, MARCH 28) DEFENDED HIS ACTIONS IN THE MATTER OF THE GREY ZONE CONTROVERSY. HIS REPLY WAS DIRECTED TO A CRITICAL ARTICLE IN A PREVIOUS EDITION OF THAT PAPER. TEXT OF STEEN'S LETTER FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT IT IS A GOOD MAXIM IN POLITICS THAT WHEN A POLITICAL OPPONENT VOLUNTARILY PUTS HIS HEAD ON THE BLOCK ONE SHALL OMIT LETTING THE AXE FALL.

3. THEREFORE, I SHALL LIMIT MY REPLY TO BERTE ROGNERUD'S LAST ARTICLE IN AFTENPOSTEN AND BE CONTENT TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING FACTUAL INFORMATION:

A. I WAS IN THE USA FROM FEB 12 TO FEB 16.

B. JENS EVENSEN ARRIVED IN THE USA FEB 17.

C. AS WILL BE SEEN FROM THE ABOVE I COULD HARDLY HAVE GOTTEN A TRANSCRIPT FROM JENS EVENSEN'S TALKS DURING MY STAY IN THE USA.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 OSLO 01514 010734Z

D. DURING MY TALKS WITH AMERICAN POLITICIANS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THE "GREY ZONE AGREEMENT" WAS NEVER TAKEN UP BY THE AMERICAN SIDE. HOWEVER, I GAVE A BRIEFING ON THE AGREEMENT AND THE NORWEGIAN VIEWS.

E. EVERY TIME THE "GREY ZONE AGREEMENT" WAS MENTIONED THE AMERICANS STRESSED THAT THEY SAW IT AS A BILATERAL

AGREEMENT MATTER BETWEEN NORWAY AND THE SOVIET UNION, ON WHICH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT EXPRESS ANY OPINIONS.

F. THESE ASSURANCES HAVE BEEN REITERATED FROM THE AMERICAN SIDE AFTER THE STORTING ACTION ON THE "GREY ZONE AGREEMENT." END TEXT.

4. IN A RELATED MATTER, NRK TV'S STORTING REPORTER HERBJOERN SOEREBOE SAID ON TV LAST NIGHT (3/30) THAT AMERICAN OFFICIALS RECENTLY HAD CONTACTED THE NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY ASSURING IT THAT THE US CONSIDERED THE BARENTS SEA NEGOTIATIONS A BILATERAL NORWEGIAN-SOVIET MATTER. SOEREBOE ALSO SAID THE AMERICANS HAD MADE IT CLEAR THEY HAVE TRANSCRIPTS OF ALL CONVERSATIONS ON THE SUBJECT BETWEEN NORWEGIAN POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS. SOEREBOE SAID THESE TRANSCRIPTS ARE STILL CONFIDENTIAL, BUT THAT THE CONTENTS OF THEM HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE STORTING FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. SOEREBOE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT IT WAS THE AMERICANS WHO HAD CONTACTED THE NORWEGIANS AT THIS TIME.
BREMER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TEXTS, GREY ZONE AGREEMENT, TELEVISION BROADCASTING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OSLO01514
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780142-0175
Format: TEL
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978033/aaaaacix.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3f0638be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3217916
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GREY ZONE--RECENT COMMENTS
TAGS: PBOR, PEPR, SOPN, NO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3f0638be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014